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Agenda item 77
Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

Note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.50

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 4, 5, 7 and 8 of draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.50, the General Assembly would:

(a) Recall the decision of the States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects to convene the next review conference not later than 2001, preceded by a preparatory committee, and recommend that the review conference be held in December 2001 in Geneva;

(b) Welcome the convening of the first Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference on 14 December 2000 in Geneva, and decide to convene the second Preparatory Committee from 2 to 6 April 2001 and the third Preparatory Committee from 24 to 28 September 2001;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and its Preparatory Committee;

(d) Also request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically of the ratifications and acceptances of and accession to the Convention and its Protocols.

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2. The requests contained in operative paragraphs 7 and 8 of the draft resolution are related to programme 26, Disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, as revised, and section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

3. No provision has been made under section 4, Disarmament, or section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 to cover the costs related to the activities required by operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution. The costs related to activities associated with such meetings shall be met in accordance with the arrangements made by the States parties and no additional cost shall be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations.

4. Activities related to international conventions or treaties that, under their respective legal instruments, are to be financed outside the regular budget of the United Nations may be undertaken by the Secretariat only when sufficient funding is received, in advance, from the States parties. Furthermore, in accordance with established procedures, the United Nations would levy a charge at a rate of 13 per cent of expenditure for such activities, to defray the administrative and other support costs incurred in their implementation. Such expenses would also be borne by the States parties.

5. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.50, assistance from the Secretariat would be required for the convening of the second Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee. The related requirements are estimated as follows:

	Preparatory Committee (First session)	*Preparatory Committee (Second session)*	*Preparatory Committee (Third session)*	*Second Review Conference*
	(United States dollars)			
(a) Conference-servicing costs				
Meeting servicing	11 000	55 600	55 600	110 800
Pre-session documentation	57 800	31 500	32 000	53 200
In-session documentation	0	27 200	34 400	49 900
Post-session documentation	24 700	24 900	49 100	97 200
Summary records	12 700	12 800	12 800	129 100
Other conference services	700	3 300	3 300	6 700
Subtotal (a)	**106 900**	**155 300**	**187 200**	**446 900**
(b) Non-conference servicing costs				
One work-month of temporary assistance at the General Service (Other) level	-	-	-	7 900
Subtotal (b)	-	-	-	**7 900**
Total ((a) + (b))	**106 900**	**155 300**	**187 200**	**454 800**
(c) Programme support costs (13 per cent)	13 900	20 200	24 300	59 100
Total ((a) + (b) + (c))	**120 800**	**175 500**	**211 500**	**513 900**

6. The costing provided herein is for indicative purposes only. States parties to the Convention would have to bear, in full, the actual costs of holding the Conference and the meetings of the Preparatory Committee.

7. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.50, no additional requirements would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.